

Filed contemporaneously herewith is a paper submitting the original patent document.

The specification has been amended to add an Abstract, on a separate sheet, as required by the examiner.

It is noted with appreciation that claims 1-27 have been allowed.

Claims 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite in the use of the term "first and second axes" in claim 30. Claim 30 has been amended to delete that language.

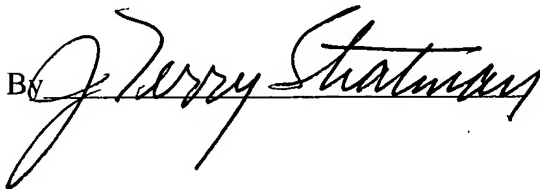
Claims 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,624,493 to Porter. Claims 28 and 31 have been cancelled, and claims 29 and 30 have been amended to be dependent on new claim 32.

New claim 32 recites a kettle which has a "handle assembly connected to the body and having first and second ends and a movable portion", and further recites a closure member-actuating mechanism which couples the spout closure member to the movable portion of the handle assembly and is "pivotally movable about an axis fixed relative to the body and always disposed beyond the first and second ends." Porter does not disclose or suggest such an arrangement. The closure member-actuating mechanism 14 of Porter pivots about a fixed axis on the forward ear 13, which is not always disposed between the first and second ends of the handle assembly (see Fig. 1).

For the foregoing reasons, it is believed that, as amended, claims 29, 30 and 32 patentably distinguish from the cited art. Accordingly, all of the remaining claims 1-27, 29, 30 and 32 are in condition for allowance and, therefore, allowance of the application is respectfully asked.

Respectfully submitted,

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29. (Amended) The kettle of claim [28] 32, wherein the spout closure member is a lid covering the opening in the closed position.

30. (Amended) The kettle of claim [28, and further comprising structure coupling the spout closure member and the handle to the body for pivotal movement respectively about first and second axes] 32, wherein the axis is disposed on the handle assembly.